

WEEKLY WATCH
Immanuel Lutheran School
Hillside, Illinois

“Whatsoever You Do”

Vol. 31 No. 13
November 20, 2009

NO WEEKLY WATCH NEXT WEEK
NO SCHOOL WEDNESDAY-FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 25-27

IMMANUEL’S THANKSGIVING EVE CHURCH SERVICE
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 25 – 7:00 PM

CHAPEL

No chapel next week. The next chapel service will be on Wednesday, December 2nd at 2:00 PM. Mr. Hempel will lead us in worship with the theme being “As I Ponder Why You Came to Earth”. Offerings are designated to Feed My Starving Children until the end of the year.

Market Day pick up is on Tuesday, Nov. 24th from 3-4 PM.

Tuesday, November 23rd – Last Chance - Gifts for Soldiers in Afghanistan

ILC&S will be collecting items for soldiers that are currently serving in Afghanistan. We actually asked the soldiers what they needed. Listed below are the items requested. If you would like to donate item(s), please place your donation in the drop box in the back of the church or school. The collection will continue through November 25th. If you have questions, please feel free to contact Mrs. Hardy (1st/2nd) or Mrs. Hahn. **After Thanksgiving, we will begin collecting canned goods until Christmas for a food pantry. More details will follow.**

DECEMBER LUNCH ORDERS WERE DUE BACK TODAY FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 20TH. SORRY, NO LATE ORDERS ACCEPTED.



Once again, Immanuel School will have a tree at the Brookfield Zoo during Holiday Magic. Immanuel’s tree will be #44 located in the South Mall. The students will be making ornaments and the decorating day will be on Saturday, November 21st (back-up day Sunday, November 22nd). Mrs. Bramos & Mrs. Kramer are leading the decorating effort.

JUST A REINDER: SPECIAL LUNCH ORDER FORMS WERE SENT HOME. ORDERS MUST BE RETURNED BY TUESDAY, NOV. 24TH FOR THE LUNCH SERVED ON MONDAY, NOVEMBER 30th. (HOT DOGS THIS TIME!)

PLEASE NOTE THAT WHENEVER WE HAVE A DAY OFF FROM SCHOOL, THE NEXT SCHOOL DAY ALWAYS HAS A SPECIAL LUNCH SERVED DUE TO THE FACT THAT NO ONE IS HERE THE DAY BEFORE TO RECEIVE LUNCHES FROM THE FOOD SERVICE. A SPECIAL LUNCH WILL BE SERVED AGAIN ON MONDAY, NOVEMBER 30TH BECAUSE SCHOOL WILL NOT BE IN SESSION ON NOV. 25TH THRU THE 27TH. (Thanksgiving Holiday)

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From the Principal’s Desk

Giving Thanks

Turkey Day! It’s the name little ones often use to refer to Thanksgiving. And no wonder. From the moment we put that big bird in the oven till the last of the leftovers are gone, the focus of Thanksgiving is usually the food. But most of us would like to move "beyond the turkey" and teach our kids what it really means to be thankful.

This year, take advantage of the Thanksgiving season and use it as a chance to nurture a sense of real gratitude in your family. The Bible tells us to "give thanks to the Lord for he is good" (Ps. 107:1) and to "enter his gates with thanksgiving" (Ps. 100:4). That attitude is often lost in our "I want more" culture, and encouraging thankfulness in children is no small task. But when children understand what it means to be grateful, they begin to develop an awareness of all that God has given them as well as a sense of real contentment. These ideas can help:

- 1. Read about it.** Make your children aware of America’s early history and the true background of Thanksgiving. Check out children’s books that recount great stories for this season, like *Squanto and the Miracle of Thanksgiving* by Eric Metaxas (Tommy Nelson).
- 2. Go hunting.** Plan a Pilgrim scavenger hunt. Give each participant a basket and a list of items the Pilgrims might have been familiar with. Then hide these objects throughout the house or the yard for your kids to find: dried corn, small pumpkins, pinecones, a toy boat, small Native American figures.
- 3. Act it out.** Children of all ages love stories. Take advantage of their natural interest by using stories to reinforce the importance of gratitude in our lives. For example, read the story of the ten lepers (Luke 17:11-19). Remind your children that Jesus was pleased with the *one* man who returned to give thanks for being healed. Another story of thanksgiving can be found in (Neh. 12:27-46). Look up the story of the Israelites’ celebration after the walls of Jerusalem were rebuilt. Talk about the instruments they used and the two great choirs that marched atop the walls to the temple. Your kids will love the idea of the joyous, active "thanksgiving" that could be heard "far away" (Neh. 12:43b).

Put together a home-grown band using real or handmade instruments. Practice joyful praise songs and march around the "walls".

- 4. Think differently.** Corrie ten Boom’s book *The Hiding Place* (Bantam) teaches a great lesson in thankfulness. Share Corrie’s story with your kids, pointing out her struggle to be "thankful in all things." She even thanked God for fleas in her barracks. She later learned that the fleas kept the guards away and allowed Corrie and others to study the Bible undisturbed.

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5. Create a chain reaction. Let your children make a *God is Good* chain. Gather scissors, stickers, pencils, crayons, glue and construction paper. Cut the paper in strips and ask your kids to think about the many ways God is good. Have them write or draw these attributes on the strips, then connect them to form a chain and hang it in a place where it will remind your family of God’s goodness.

6. Make a Blessing Basket. Place a pretty fall basket containing a pencil and pad of paper in an easy-to-reach location. Throughout the month, encourage family members to jot down ways God has blessed them. Younger children can draw or cut out pictures from magazines. Read these together and give God thanks each day or set aside some time on Thanksgiving Day.

7. Trim a Tree of Thanks. Draw and cut out a large paper tree with lots of loose leaves in autumn colors. Mount the tree in a prominent place and put the leaves nearby in a box with glue and markers. Ask your family to write things they are thankful for on the leaves, filling the tree by the end of the month.

8. Find your seat. Have the children make a place card for each place setting. On one side, write names of guests and family; on the other, type a Scripture verse about being thankful. Let each person read a verse before the blessing.

9. Encourage sharing. Place a paper leaf at each place with an "assignment" written on it. Each person adds to the festivities by completing their assignment. Assignments might include:

- Read Psalm 100.
- Share a Thanksgiving memory (use this on several paper leaves).
- Sing a Thanksgiving song (good for pre-schoolers).
- Lead the group in a praise chorus (have copies of the lyrics available).
- Say the blessing for our meal.

10. Count your blessings. Follow a tradition started by Focus on the Family’s James Dobson. Place several kernels of corn at each plate. At the start of the meal, drop the kernels in a basket as you each give thanks for God’s goodness in the previous year—one thanksgiving for each kernel. Candy corn works well for this, too!

11. Set the mood. Give an unlit votive candle to each person. Begin by lighting your own candle and thanking God for specific blessings. Then, continue the process around the table until all the candles are lit, making sure to keep the flames away from small children. Lead your family in a candlelight service of thanksgiving.

12. Share the blessings. As a family, develop a plan on how you can share your blessings with others. Some ideas are gifts of food to a pantry, invite someone to share in your thanksgiving feast, visit a shut-in... The ideas are endless.

Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his love endures forever. 1 Chronicles 16:34

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Time for a Review?

Is it time to take out the Immanuel Family Handbook for a review? It has been several month since you received the handbook at registration. Each of you committed to read and review the handbook with your child(ren). Yet, it seems that much has been forgotten. When you enroll your child at Immanuel you are bound to its rules.

Just a few highlights:

Page 6 & 13 – Wellness policy discourages fast foods.

Page 10 – Member status requires active participation in the congregation.

Page 12 – Do not leave your car parked for “just a minute” in an illegal spot.

Page 12 – Tardiness will lead to detentions or suspension.

Page 12 – Detentions are not optional and must be served.

Page 18 – 21 Discipline Policy (all of it) – if your child breaks the rules, expect consequences as outlined. The idea of discipline is to change behavior.

Page 25 – Sickness – Do not send your child to school sick.

Working together, we can make Immanuel a great place to learn!

1ST TRIMESTER HONOR ROLL -

The following students in grades 5-8 were placed on Immanuel's Honor Roll for the 1st Trimester with a GPA of 3.0 or higher:

Dratonyai Ratcliff, Joshua DuBois, Kyla Clark, Amber Reese, Arielle Reese, Mia Funches, Tailar Carpenter, and Lillian Brown. CONGRATULATIONS!

PARENTING WORKSHOP – ABSTINENT TEENS

Information regarding this workshop was handed out at conferences last week. The workshop mainly targets students in grades 5-8, but anyone is welcome to attend. It is being held on Tuesday, December 1st from 7-9 PM. See attachment.

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Hot Dog Lunch

Monday, November 30th

On Monday, November 30th, and throughout the school year, the Immanuel Staff will sponsor a series of special lunches designed to raise money for their continuing education. To order and support them, simply complete the form below and return it to school by the due date with the correct amount of money.

YOUR SUPPORT IS GREATLY APPRECIATED!!!

_____ Hot Dog Lunch Meal Deal - \$4.00
The meal deal includes: 1 hot dog, chips, dessert, and drink.

_____ Extra Hot Dog - \$1.00
You must order the meal deal to order an extra hot dog..

Student's Name _____

Please return this form and money to Immanuel by Tuesday, November 24th.
NO CHECKS PLEASE!

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The Week That Was

The girls' varsity season kicked off with a bang. The season tipped off this past Sunday at the Westchester Tip-Off classic where the Lady Cardinals fell to Westchester Middle School. It was a hard fought, back and forth game in which the Lady Cardinals gained valuable experience. Their conference season began this past Tuesday with a game against St. Paul, Melrose Park. After a rough start due to foul trouble, the Lady Cardinals got their act together. They showed great heart and determination as they tried to make up the deficit. Unfortunately, in the end they fell a few points short. The lessons they have learned in these two games should definitely help them as they head into the Walther Tournament this weekend.

GOOD LUCK LADY CARDINALS!!!!

The Week Upcoming

Monday, Nov. 23rd – Girls JV B-Ball Practice

Tuesday, Nov. 24th – Girls B-Ball Practice
Varsity & JV

Wednesday, Nov. 25th – No School

Thursday, Nov. 26th – No School

Friday, Nov. 27th – No School

HAPPY THANKSGIVING!!

LADY CARDINALS @ WALTHER TOURNAMENT

Come and watch the Lady Cardinals as they compete in the Walther Tournament this Saturday, November 21st. They will face St. Luke Itasca at 11:10am. They will play again on Saturday at either 3:15pm or 4:30pm.

COME CHEER YOUR CARDINALS ON TO VICTORY!!!

IMMANUEL INDOOR SOCCER IS BACK!!!

Registration time is here. A note will be going home next week regarding early registration for Immanuel families. Once the deadline has passed, it will be first come, first accepted.

SIGN UP EARLY – DON'T GET LEFT OUT!

Quote Of The Week.....

Be strong in body,
clean in mind,
lofty in ideals.